

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-57. (canceled)

58. (currently amended) A method for predicting pregnancy outcome in a subject comprising the steps of:

(a) (i) contacting a first portion of a sample from the subject with a first antibody which binds to ~~the~~ EPMI-an early pregnancy-associated molecular isoform of hCG (EPMI-hCG), which isoform that is recognized by the B152 antibody deposited with the American Type Culture Collection under Designation No. HB-12467;

(ii) contacting the sample resulting from (a)(i) with a second, labeled antibody which binds to EPMI-hCG simultaneously with the first antibody;

(iii) measuring the amount of any bound second antibody in the sample, so as to thereby determine the amount of EPMI-hCG in the sample;

(b) (i) contacting a second portion of the sample from the subject with a third antibody which binds to intact non-nicked hCG;

(ii) contacting the sample resulting from (b)(i) with a fourth, labeled antibody which binds to intact non-nicked hCG simultaneously with the third antibody;

(iii) measuring the amount of bound fourth antibody in the sample, so as to thereby determine the amount of intact hCG in the sample, with the proviso that steps (a) and (b) can be performed in any order; and

(c) determining the ratio of the EPMI-hCG to intact hCG in the sample from the measurements performed in (a)(iii) and (b)(iii), wherein a ratio greater than 1 indicates a positive pregnancy outcome and a ratio less than 1 indicates a negative pregnancy outcome.

59. (previously presented) The method of claim 58, wherein the first and third antibodies are bound to a solid support.

60. (previously presented) The method of claim 58, wherein the sample is a urine sample.

61. (previously presented) The method of claim 60, wherein the urine sample is obtained from the subject within the first five weeks of pregnancy.

62. (currently amended) A method for determining the amount of an early pregnancy-associated molecular isoform of hCG (EPMI-hCG) ~~EPMI-hCG~~ present in a sample comprising the steps of:

(i) contacting a sample from the subject with a first antibody which binds to ~~the~~ EPMI-hCG, which EPMI-hCG ~~that~~ is recognized by the B152 antibody deposited with the American Type Culture Collection under Designation No. HB-12467;

- (ii) contacting the resulting sample with a second, labeled antibody which binds to EPMI-hCG simultaneously with the first antibody; and
- (iii) measuring the amount of bound second antibody in the sample, so as to thereby determine the amount of EPMI-hCG in the sample.

63. (currently amended) A diagnostic kit for predicting pregnancy outcome in a subject comprising:

- (a) a first antibody, bound to a solid support, which binds to the an early pregnancy-associated molecular isoform of hCG (EPMI-hCG)EPMI-hCG, which EPMI-hCG~~that~~ is recognized by the B152 antibody deposited with the American Type Culture Collection under Designation No. HB-12467;
- (b) a second, labeled antibody which binds to EPMI-hCG simultaneously with the antibody of (a);
- (c) a third antibody, bound to a solid support, which binds to intact non-nicked hCG;
- (d) a fourth, labeled antibody which binds to intact non-nicked hCG simultaneously with the antibody of (c); and
- (e) reagents permitting binding between the antibodies and their respective antigens in a sample from the subject.

64. (previously presented) The diagnostic kit of claim 63, wherein the second antibody is B207 deposited with the American Type Culture Collection under Designation No. PTA-1626.

65. (previously presented) The diagnostic kit of claim 63, wherein the third antibody is B109 deposited with the American Type Culture Collection under Designation No. PTA-1624.
66. (previously presented) The diagnostic kit of claim 63, wherein the fourth antibody is B108 deposited with the American Type Culture Collection under Designation No. PTA-1625.
67. (previously presented) An antibody which binds to the EPMI-hCG that is recognized by the B152 antibody deposited with the American Type Culture Collection under Designation No. HB-12467.